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OAKHAM

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER, 1957.

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OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1957.

My Lord, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my nineteenth Annual Report dealing with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)		52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population.....		9,060
Number of inhabited houses.....		2,390
Rateable Value.....		£82,197
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	Estimated.	£ 325

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births -	Legitimate	109	81	190
	Illegitimate	5	1	6
Still Birth -	Legitimate	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	-	-	-

	Rate for District.	Rate for England and Wales.
Birth Rate	23.4	16.1
Death Rate	8.0	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.	20.4	23.0

These Statistics are very favourable to the District.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males.	Females.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm Breast.	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus.	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.	3	2
Diabetes.	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	1	6
Coronary Disease, Angina.	5	7
Other Heart Disease.	3	5
Other Circulatory Disease.	2	3
Influenza.	-	1
Pneumonia.	3	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	2	-
Congenital Malformations.	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	2
Motor accidents.	3	-
All other accidents.	-	2
Suicide.	1	-
	28	34

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health. John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

Public Health Inspector. G.E.Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Other Foods, & Certificates General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering. The Public Health Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Nose and Throat Swabs	10
Faeces and Urine	22
Blood	17
Sputa	20
V. and C	4
Milk	3
Water	14
	90

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1956.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	-
Measles.	69	3	-
Whooping Cough.	8	-	-
Pneumonia.	9	3	6
Erysipelas.	2	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	1	-

There was no serious epidemic during the year. Fortunately we had only one case of poliomyelitis. This little girl has completely recovered.

Disease	Under 1	1/2	2/3	3/4	4/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/35	35/45	45/65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	5	5	10	6	7	27	7	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	2	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	4
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Poliomyelitis.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Three new cases were notified, two pulmonary and one gladular in a boy -- age 11 years. A sample of the milk supply to the last case was sent for biological examination.

Age	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonrary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Number of Samples taken for analysis :-
(a) from wells 6
(b) from pipe supply 11
Results from Samples taken :-
(a) from wells - satisfactory 2
unsatisfactory 4

(b) from pipe supply - satisfactory 9
unsatisf ctory 2

Number of wells :-
(a) closed 2
(b) cleansed, repairs, etc., ... 3
Number of cases in which piped supply was provided 405
Number of Parishes with piped water supply:-
(a) from public mains 21
(b) from private reservoirs 4
Number of Parishes without a piped water supply. 3

During the year 1957, a further extension of the water-mains was carried out to supply out-lying properties in the parish of Exton. Many additional connections to properties were also made, and by the end of the year most of the houses in the District had piped water supplies. In addition to the number of connections shown on the table below, premises at Braunston and Barleythorpe were supplied from the Oakham Urban District Council's mains, and the small village of Tickencote from those of the Ketton Rural District Council. The married Quarters at North Luffenham Aerodrome received this Council's water, and the houses on the Cottesmore R.A.F.Station had the Air Ministry's own supply. During part of the year this Council's Regional water undertaking was able to augment the supply to the Oakham Urban District through mains at Burley where the two water undertakings are inter-connected. Discussions took place between the Oakham Rural and Urban District Councils concerning the possibility of providing piped water to the parish of Brooke in this District, which can be more conveniently supplied from the Urban District Council's mains. The total amount of water delivered by the Oakham Rural District Council to all premises during 1957, was approximately 95,000,000 gallons.

Particulars of the Council's own supplies are as follows :-

	Piped to Houses.	Houses supplied from Stand-pipe.	Farm Supplies.
Ashwell	62	-	5
Barrow	16	6	6
Burley	37	-	29
Cottesmore	113	-	22
Edith Weston	75	-	9
Empingham	157	12	15
Exton	178	-	30
Greetham	109	5	6
Hambleton	43	-	20
Horn	5	-	3
Langham	187	-	12
Lyndon	29	-	3

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	Piped to Houses	Houses supplied from stand-pipes	Farm Supplies
Manton	84	6	10
Market Overton	107	14	10
Normanton	11	-	1
Stretton	24	-	7
Teigh	18	-	13
Thistleton	28	-	7
Tickencote	16	-	1
Whissendine	156	31	15
Whitwell	19	-	8
	1474	74	232

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of Cesspools constructed during the year.... 16
Number of Cesspools abolished during the year..... 22
Total number on 31st.December,1957 393

Attention was given and repairs were carried out as necessary during 1957 to the existing village drains and sewers. At Exton the new sewers and sewage disposal works were put to full use, and the remaining houses of the village finally connected up. The new sewage works at Langham were also completed, and at the close of the year the work of connecting the various properties was in progress. With the completion of these schemes a large number of pail lavatories have already been dispensed with, and this will greatly facilitate the work of scavenging in these villages in the future.

On the 12th. February 1957, an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held a private enquiry into the scheme of sewering the two villages of Cottesmore and Greetham and improving the existing sewage works of the Cottesmore Aerodrome, so that sewage from these two villages and the Aerodrome might all be treated at one point. Since then permission for the proposed work to proceed has been given, and arrangements to commence this work early in 1958 have now been made.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number in the District at the end of 1956 :-

Privies..... 4
Pail Closets 1114
Water Closets 1272

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :-

Privies..... 6
Pail Closets..... 231

Number of privies converted to pail closets during the year...Nil.

Public Cleansing.

Sixteen of the villages of the District - Cottesmore, Exton, Barleythorpe, Empingham, Edith Weston, Langham, Market Overton, Greetham, Tickencote, Manton, Thistleton, Teigh, Whitwell, Braunston, Stretton and parts of Normanton, are now provided with regular collections of refuse carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council. A partial removal is provided monthly in the nine parishes of Ashwell, Barrow, Whissendine, Brooke, Hambleton, Lyndon, Burley, Egleton and parts of Horn; and also at Gunthorpe at less frequent intervals.
Weekly collections are also carried out by the Contractors on behalf of the Council at the Married Quarters of the R.A.F.Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston.

With the exception of Market Overton, Exton, Braunston and parts of Barleythorpe and Normanton, the first named sixteen villages are provided with a weekly scavenging system of night-soil also carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council.
There is, in addition, a weekly scavenging system of nightsoil by Contractors at Barrow, Burley, Egleton, Hambleton, and Lyndon.
The Council also arrange for the periodical emptying of the village septic tanks at Ashwell and Cottesmore, in addition to those on the various housing sites in this District and three septic tanks at Empingham.

In view of complaints concerning the delays in removing refuse and nightsoil by one of the four Contractors during the latter part of 1957, it was necessary for a new Contractor to be called in to deal with the villages covered by that particular contract. Now that the new sewers have been completed in Langham, it is proposed to cease collections of night-soil during 1958, when reasonable opportunity has been afforded for suitable drain connections to be made in that village. A large garage has been erected for use by vehicles should the Council decide to carry out refuse collection by direct labour, but a change from the contract system is not contemplated in the immediate future.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report :-

Total number of complaints received 702
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered..... 661

Nature of Inspections.	Inspections.	Re-visits.
Dwelling Houses.	633	1249
Tents, Vans, Etc.,	16	59
Slaughter houses.	4	129
Dairies and Cowsheds.	1	14
Offensive trades.	-	-
Animal keeping.	7	17
Workshops, Etc.,	20	81
Shops.	31	82
Other premises.	389	803
	1101	2434

The Public Health Inspector made 1340 visits to the various parishes of the District. In addition 19 visits were made outside the District.

Notices .

Preliminary.	Housing.	Other.
Outstanding 1st.January.	2	4
Issued during the year.	226	287
Complied with during year.	224	287
Statutory action necessary.	1	2
Outstanding 31st.December.	4	4

Statutory.	Housing.	Other.
Oustanding 1st. January.	10	-
Issued during the year.	1	2
Complied with during year.	1	2
Statutory Action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st. December.	10	-

Shops.

31 inspections and 82 re-visits were made to shops in the District during the year and action was taken under the Shops Act in resepct of the sanitary arrangements at four Shops.

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year..... 16
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued 12

Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during Summer months..... 33
(this figure does not include the campers resident in various officially organised Agricultural and Services Camps in the District).

Regulated Buildings.	Number in District.	Number of Inspections.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.,	16	59

During the course of 1957, the Council granted eleven temporary licences to owners of caravans for these to remain in the district for extended periods beyond the forty-two days allowed under the Public Health Act. An application was received for permission to set up a permanent caravan camping site at Langham for use during summer months, and permission was granted by the Council under the Public Health Acts for a period of three years after the necessary sanction had been obtained by the owner from the Town Planning Committee of the Rutland County Council. Before granting this permission, however, the Council required the installation of suitable lavatory accommodation, which work was not completed until late in the year, so that camping on this particular site could be commenced during 1957.

HOUSING.

In accordance with the instruction of the Ministry of Housing the inclusion of details of housing matters in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health is no longer necessary.

In may however be noted that another house was demolished in 1957 in pursuance of a demolition order, and as alternative accommodation had been found for the remaining families at the twelve Woolfox Hutments, these buildings were also demolished.

During the course of the year grants for forty-three improvements to properties under the Housing Act 1949 were approved subject to satisfactory completion of the work by the owners.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

During 1957 a further five houses were completed by the Council at Exton and twelve more at Greetham. Works was also on hand on eighteen houses for the Council at Langham, but these were not ready for occupation during 1957. Eight houses were also completed for private owners. A large number of houses were also built by the R.A.F.Authorities for use as Married Quarters in connection with nearby Aerodromes at Cottesmore and Edith Weston. The number of applicants for Council houses on the Housing Register at the end of the year 1957 was ninety-seven.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises)on Register	1
Number of inspections of premises	14
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year.....	-
Contraventions remedied during year	-
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st.Dec.	-

No ice cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are 11 premises on the Council's list from which pre-packed ice cream is sold.
A smaple of milk taken from the only dairy (not being farm premises) in the Register proved quite satisfactory upon analysis.
Two other samples of milk were also submitted for analysis, and in both cases the results were satsifactory.

Meat and other Foods.

Twenty-two inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores, Etc., and thirty-four inspections and re-inspections of premises were food other than meat is keptor prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this district is by burning.

	In Jan.1957.	In Dec.1957.
Private Slaughter Houses :-		
Number registered.....	-	-
Number licensed.....	4	4

Four licences for slaughter houses in this District were renewed during 1957 and these buildings were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Meat Inspection.

Although it has not been possible to inspect all animals killed in the slaughterhouses in this District during 1957, much more has been done than in ih the previous year.

The number of cattle, sheep and pigs slaughtered are as shewn in the table below :-

	Beasts.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed	215	1342	390
Number Inspected.	151	878	285
All Diseases except Tuberculosis			
(a) Whole Carcases condemned.	-	2	-
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	2	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	0.66%	0.46%	0.70%
Tuberculosis only.			
(a) Whole Carcases condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned.	1	-	1
(c) Percentage of number inspected with tuberculosis.	0.66%	-	0.35%
Cysticercosis.			
(a) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

It was possible during 1957 for the remaining premises concerned under the Food Hygiene Regulations to be connected to piped water supplies, following the completion of the new Regional Water Scheme, and in some cases alterations to the sanitary arrangements of the premises were also carried out in the villages where suitable sewage systems were also provided. In one case however. it was arranged by the owner of the premises that the sale of food be discontinued so that the Regulations would cease to apply. Generally speaking the Food Hygiene Regulations have been observed in a satisfactory manner, and no case has arisen where report to the Council has been necessary.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

I am pleased to report again that no legal action was necessary during 1957 to secure the removal of persons to suitable Homes under the provisions of the abovd Act.
It was however, necessary to make arrangements for an elderly man to enter a suitable Home and in this instance persuasion was successful.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG,
Medical Officer of Health.

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